

App. No.: 09/847,016
Art Unit: 2195

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as indicated hereafter. It is believed that the following amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

Please replace the paragraph starting on p. 1, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

_____ With recent advances in digital transmission technology, cable television systems are now capable of providing much more than the traditional analog broadcast video. In implementing enhanced programming, the home communication terminal ("HCT"), otherwise known as the set-top box, has become an important computing device for accessing video services and navigating a subscriber through a maze of available services. In addition to supporting traditional analog broadcast video functionality, digital HCTs (or "DHCTs") now also support an increasing number of two-way digital services such as video-on-demand.

Please replace the paragraph starting on p. 15, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 5 illustrates the concept of video blanking intervals in a video signal, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention. Video pictures in the United States are typically composed of 526 horizontal lines created by an electron beam located in the television. The electron beam writes one line ~~540~~ 550 at a time on a picture tube, with one still image or frame ~~550~~ 540 of a video picture created by the 525 lines. The illusion of motion is created by repeating this frame creation process 30 times each second (i.e. 30 frames per second). To minimize flicker and to improve bandwidth, an interlacing system is used whereby each frame ~~550~~ 540 is divided into two separate fields containing half of the picture information. The first field 510 is created by the electron beam sequentially writing all of the odd numbered lines. A vertical synchronization pulse then returns the beam to the top of the screen to create the second field 520 by writing all of the even numbered lines. Thus, the 30 frames per second equate to 60 fields per second.

App. No.: 09/847,016
Art Unit: 2193

Please replace the paragraph starting on p. 18, line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to FIG. 7, with continued reference to FIG. 6, FIG. 7 is a block diagram of an example MPEG-2 decoder circuitry, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention. In one of many different embodiments, when a viewer selects (e.g. with a remote) a particular program from, by way of non-limiting example, an Electronic Program Guide, that selection is associated with the LCN 631. The LCN 631 defines a service by its number (PN) and transport stream ID (TSID). The TSID is used as a key to the NIT 636 to determine the frequency carrying the desired channel. The transport stream carried at the selected frequency is provided to processor 714, which selects from the transport stream those data packets having PIDs known to contain the various control data and PSI tables. The PN is used as a key to the PAT 638 to retrieve the PID on the specified transport stream that carries the PMT 640 defining the desired channel. The demultiplexer ~~716~~ 717 receives the transport stream from the processor 714 as well as the information (i.e. PIDs) from the PAT 638, PMT 640, and CAT 742 (a conditional access table for encryption) needed to demultiplex the service components of the selected program from the transport stream. The demultiplexer ~~716~~ 717, as configured by the processor 714, searches for the subscriber ID information as indicated by the PMT 640, which may be located in a data PID, for a non-limiting example, PID 41. The demultiplexing technique, as well as the technique for generating the table parameters, is well known to those skilled in the art. Note that the subscriber identification information is simply data to be transported from the head end 11 to the DHCT 16. The subscriber identification information is not required to identify the transport stream at the DHCT 16 for demultiplexing, nor is it required to encrypt or decrypt the media presentation. It is simply data that the DHCT 16 will retrieve and insert into the media presentation for tracing copying. After the subscriber identification information is stored in system memory 249, the process of demultiplexing and inserting is as described in relation to FIG. 2a.